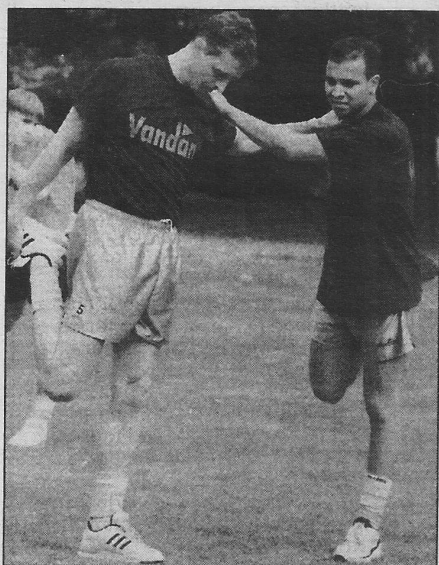


Kid gloves are off as Smith settles in



Runaround: Wanderers' players concentrate studiously on the jogging job in hand during a circuit of Bisham Abbey

'You've got to have an edge because I've got an edge'



Shoulders to lean on: Glyn Creaser and Chuck Moussaddik look a little pensive

THERE was no more Mr Nice Guy at Alan Smith's first Wycombe Wanderers training session at Bisham Abbey on Wednesday.

Blues' new boss got down to the nitty gritty when he spoke to the players for the first time at the end of a cobweb-clearing workout.

With members of both the first and youth teams scattered around Smith in varying states of exhaustion, he told them: "I expect you to behave

like good schoolboys on the training pitch, in the dressing room and for the public.

"But when you're out on the pitch, I want you to have an edge," before adding with cold steeliness, "because I've got an edge."

The players looked as relaxed as is possible while executing exercises devised by fitness instructor Keith Power.

But some, possibly those out of contract or those on

their former boss's transfer list, were perhaps sweating on tenterhooks. Smith, though, is pleased some will have good reason to cultivate more of a cutting edge to prove themselves.

The manager's demeanour put one in mind of the slave-driver choreographer in the film Fame. Although clearly a nice bloke, fame costs and here's where Wycombe's players will start paying – in blood, sweat and tears.



Ouch: Stretching exercises test Steve Thompson's endurance